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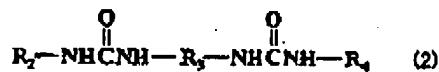
Application/ Control No.: 10/624,002
Examiner: GOLOBOY, James C

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of the present application under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c), as indicated below:

1. (Currently amended): A nitrite free grease composition for avoiding an abnormal peeling of a rolling surface of a bearing, said nitrite free grease composition comprising:
 - a base oil,
 - a thickener, and
 - an additive;

wherein the base oil consists of contains synthesized hydrocarbon oil and 20% by weight or more of alkyldiphenyl ether oil or consists of alkyldiphenyl ether oil and does not contain ester oil in the base oil, and has a kinetic viscosity of 20 to 150 mm²/s at 40 degree° C, and wherein the thickener is an aromatic diurea compound represented by the following formula (2)



where R₂ and R₄ are the same or different, and represent each an aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms, and R₃ represents an aromatic hydrocarbon group having 6 to 15 carbon atoms, and is contained in an amount of 5 to 30% by weight based on the total amount of the base oil and the thickener, and

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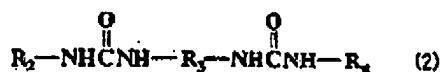
wherein the additive contains as an essential component 0.5 to 5 parts by weight of a sodium sebacate based on 100 parts by weight of the base oil and the thickener,

wherein the additive contains a rust preventative which is a partially esterified multivalent alcohol or an organic sulfonic acid salt of an alkali metal or an alkali earth metal.

2. (Canceled)

3-6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended): The grease composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the R_2 and R_4 is $C_5H_4(CH_3)$, and the R_3 is represented by the following formula



8-10 (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented): The grease composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the additive comprises 0.05 to 5 parts by weight of an antioxidant in addition to sodium sebacate based on 100 parts by weight of the base oil and the thickener.

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12. (Previously presented): The grease composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein the antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of a sulfur-containing antioxidant, a phenol-based antioxidant and an amine-based antioxidant.

13. (Previously presented): A grease composition sealed bearing, in which a sliding part of the bearing is sealed with the grease composition as claimed in claim 1.

14-16. (Canceled)

17 (New): The grease composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein said synthesized hydrocarbon oil is a poly- α -olefin Oil and said alkyldiphenyl ether oil is dialkyldiphenyl ether oil.

18. (New): The grease composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thickener is contained in an amount of 18 to 22% by weight based on the total amount of the base oil and the thickener.

10. (New): The grease composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the additive contains as an essential component 1 to 3 parts by weight of a sodium sebacate based on 100 parts by weight of the base oil and the thickner.